

In fact, it was the Father of our country, President George Washington, also an avid agriculturist, who considered the improvement of agriculture as one of the greatest pursuits “in which more real and important services can be rendered to any country.” I could not agree more!!

What was true at the founding of our great Nation remains ever-true today because of the example set by all in my State who are tied irrevocably to working the land, and by the exceptional leadership of the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs, Board Members, and volunteers. We could not be more appreciative to them for the well-earned spotlight they shine on the infinite contributions made by Maine farmers and organized fairs, which have become a staple on the yearly calendar for our State and indeed across New England. To experience one of these wonderful fairs is to witness the very best of who we are as Mainers and to experience the limitless pride our farmers take in cultivating the bounty our great State has to offer.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

##### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the following enrolled bill, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, was signed on January 25, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

H.R. 3237. An act to amend the SOAR Act by clarifying the scope of coverage of the Act.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 290. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1022. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2070. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the Nation on June 6, 1944, the morning of D-Day.

H.R. 3800. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3801. An act to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify the definition of aircraft and the offenses penalized under the aviation

smuggling provisions under that Act, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), as amended, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2013: Mr. Daniel M. Slane of Ohio.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 290. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1022. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2070. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the nation on June 6, 1944, the morning of D-Day; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4538. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Missouri; Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) for the 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)” (FRL No. 9621-1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4539. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania; Determinations of Attainment of the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Standard for the Philadelphia-Wilmington Nonattainment Area” (FRL No. 9620-3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4540. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsyl-

vania; Clean Vehicle Program” (FRL No. 9620-2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4541. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Great Lakes Steamship Repower Incentive Program” (FRL No. 9618-9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4542. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “NRC Participation in the Development and Use of Consensus Standards” (NRC Management Directive 6.5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 13, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4543. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Benefit Programs; Negotiated Pricing and Remaining Revisions; Prescription Drug Benefit Program; Payments to Sponsors of Retiree Prescription Drug Plans” (RIN0938-AP64) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 12, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4544. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to Regulations Regarding Eligibility for a Medicare Prescription Drug Subsidy” (RIN0960-AH24) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 13, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4545. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Mailing of Tickets Under the Ticket to Work Program” (RIN0960-AH34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 11, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4546. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Permitted Disparity in Employer-provided Contributions or Benefits” (Rev. Rul. 2012-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4547. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Repub. of Rev. Proc. 2011-6” (Rev. Proc. 2012-6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4548. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Repub. of Rev. Proc. 2011-4” (Rev. Proc. 2012-4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4549. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch,